A synopsis on

Artificial Intelligence(AI) Based fruit Disease Identification and Quality Detection System

For Degree of Philosophy in Computer Science
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Synopsis
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Swami RamanandTeerthMarathwada University, Nanded

Submitted By
Vanita Madhukar Boywar
Research Scholar

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Under Guidance of
Dr. Gajanan D. Kurundkar
Assistant Professor
Department of Computer Science,
Shri Guru BuddhiswamiMahavidyalaya,
Purna (Jn.), Dist. Parbhani (M.S.) India.

1. Abstract of Proposed Work:

Agriculture is equally important for economic development, constituting 4% of global GDP and over 25% of GDP in some of the world's least developed countries[1]. The agricultural sector is particularly effective in improving the income levels of impoverished populations. The world is currently confronted with numerous challenges that pose threats to agriculture. The COVID-19 pandemic, combined with extreme weather events, pest infestations, and conflicts, has severely disrupted food systems, leading to price hikes and an increased risk of famine. The current state of food systems is characterized by excessive pollution, wasteful practices, and harmful impacts on both people and the environment. Astonishingly, approximately 30% of global food production is lost or wasted, exacerbating the challenges of food security, climate change, and environmental degradation.

Fruit diseases and quality defects can cause significant losses to farmers and the food industry. Traditional methods of disease identification and quality inspection are labor-intensive, time-consuming, and often inaccurate. Artificial intelligence (AI)-based systems offer a promising alternative for early and accurate detection of fruit diseases and quality defects.

This proposed study presents an AI-based fruit disease identification and quality detection system. The system uses a convolutional neural network (CNN) to extract features from fruit images. The features are then used to train a classifier to identify the disease or quality defect. The system was evaluated on a dataset of fruit images with known diseases and quality defects.

The proposed system has several advantages over traditional methods. It is faster, more accurate, and more scalable. It can also be used to detect diseases and quality defects that are difficult to identify by eye. The system has the potential to be used in a variety of applications, such as on-farm disease monitoring, post-harvest quality inspection, and food traceability.

The research presents an Artificial Intelligence (AI) based fruit disease identification and quality detection system, which addresses critical challenges in the agriculture and food industry. Fruit diseases and quality issues pose significant threats to crop yields and consumer health. Leveraging state-of-the-art AI techniques, this study explores the development of novel algorithms and models for accurate fruit disease detection and quality assessment.

2. Introduction:

Fruits are an important part of the human diet, providing essential nutrients and vitamins. However, fruits can be susceptible to diseases, which can reduce their quality and shelf life. Traditional methods for detecting fruit diseases are labor-intensive and time-consuming, and they may not be accurate.

Fruit production and cultivation are essential to the human diet and comprise a significant portion of all agricultural activity. However, fruit diseases, such as gray mold, apple scab, canker, black knot, and brown rot, can negatively impact the quality of fruits and reduce their production. These diseases can affect the quality and quantity of fruits by interfering with several processes, such as plant growth, flower and fruit development, and water absorption.

Artificial intelligence (AI) has the potential to revolutionize the way we detect fruit diseases and assess fruit quality. AI algorithms can be trained to identify patterns in images and data that are invisible to the human eye. This makes them well-suited for tasks such as detecting diseases in fruits, grading fruit quality, and predicting fruit ripeness.

In this research, we will develop an AI-based fruit identification and quality detection system. The system will use a combination of computer vision, machine learning, and deep learning techniques to identify different types of fruits and assess their quality. The system will be evaluated on a variety of fruit datasets and with different disease conditions.

The results of this research will have the potential to improve the efficiency and accuracy of fruit quality and disease detection. This could lead to reduced food waste, increased crop yields, and improved food safety.

Here are some specific examples of how AI can be used to identify fruit diseases and assess fruit quality:

Computer vision: Computer vision algorithms can be used to identify patterns in images of fruits that are indicative of diseases. For example, an algorithm could be trained to identify the presence of brown spots on apples, which are a common symptom of apple scab.

Machine learning: Machine learning algorithms can be used to learn the relationships between different features of fruits and their quality. For example, an algorithm could be trained to predict the ripeness of bananas based on their color, shape, and texture.

Deep learning: Deep learning algorithms can be used to learn more complex patterns in data than traditional machine learning algorithms. This makes them well-suited for tasks such as detecting diseases in fruits that are difficult to identify with other methods.

The development of AI-based fruit identification and quality detection systems has the potential to revolutionize the food industry. By making it easier and more accurate to detect fruit diseases and assess fruit quality, these systems could help to reduce food waste, increase crop yields, and improve food safety.

Reduced food waste: Food waste is a major problem worldwide, accounting for an estimated one-third of all food produced for human consumption. AI-based fruit identification and quality detection systems can help to reduce food waste by identifying fruits that are unfit for consumption early on in the supply chain. This can help to prevent fruits from being wasted due to spoilage or disease.

Increased crop yields: AI-based fruit identification and quality detection systems can also help to increase crop yields by identifying fruits that are ready for harvest. This can help to ensure that fruits are harvested at the optimal time, which can lead to increased yields.

Improved food safety: AI-based fruit identification and quality detection systems can also help to improve food safety by detecting fruits that are contaminated with harmful bacteria or viruses. This can help to prevent foodborne illnesses, which can have serious health consequences.

Economic benefits: The development and deployment of AI-based fruit identification and quality detection systems can have a significant economic impact. By reducing food waste, increasing crop yields, and improving food safety, these systems can save businesses money and improve their bottom line.

Sustainability benefits: AI-based fruit identification and quality detection systems can also have positive environmental impacts. By reducing food waste and increasing crop yields, these systems can help to reduce the amount of land, water, and energy used in food production.

Overall, the research on "Artificial Intelligence(AI) Based Fruit Identification and Quality Detection System" has the potential to make a significant contribution to the food industry. By making it easier and more accurate to detect fruit diseases and assess fruit quality, these systems can help to reduce food waste, increase crop yields, improve food safety, and have positive environmental impacts.

3. Aim and Objectives of the Study:

Aim:

The aim of this research study is to develop and evaluate an Artificial Intelligence (AI) based fruit disease identification and quality detection system, with the overarching goal of enhancing agricultural productivity, food safety, and sustainability.

Objectives

1. To study various techniques used for the detection of fruit diseases.
2. Explore different artificial intelligence algorithms used for fruit disease identification.
3. To develop novel algorithm for the detection of fruit diseases that improve upon the performance of existing algorithms..
4. To develop a model for the proposed algorithms that can be used to improve the classification performance.
5. Evaluate the results and performances of the proposed model.

4. Review of Literature :

Kabilesh et al. (2023), Fruit quality is a major factor affecting the marketability and price of fruits, while fruit diseases can lead to significant losses in production. Traditional methods for fruit quality and disease detection, such as visual inspection and laboratory analysis, are often labor-intensive, time-consuming and inaccurate.

AI has the potential to revolutionize the way we detect fruit quality and disease. AI algorithms can be trained to identify patterns in images and data that are invisible to the human eye. AI techniques that have been used for fruit quality and disease detection include computer vision, machine learning, and deep learning. AI has the potential to overcome the challenges of traditional methods, such as labor-intensiveness, time-consuming, and inaccuracy. However, there are still challenges and limitations to using AI, such as the need for large and labeled datasets, the need for high-performance computing, and the need for interpretability.[4]

Fruit quality is a major factor affecting the marketability and price of fruits, while fruit diseases can lead to significant losses in production. Traditional methods for fruit quality and disease detection, such as visual inspection and laboratory analysis, are often labor-intensive, time-consuming, and inaccurate. The article by Zhang et al. (2023) proposes a deep learning-based method for detecting fruit quality and disease using images captured by a mobile phone. The method uses a convolutional neural network (CNN) to extract features from images of fruits and classify them into different categories[5].

The article Zhou et al. (2023) discusses the challenges and limitations of using AI to improve food quality. These challenges include: The need for large and labeled datasets: AI algorithms require large datasets of labeled data to train. This can be difficult and expensive to obtain, especially for rare food products. The need for high-performance computing: AI algorithms can be computationally expensive to train and run. This can be a barrier for small businesses and developing countries. The need for interpretability: It is important to be able to understand how AI algorithms make decisions. This can be difficult, especially for deep learning algorithms. Despite these challenges, the authors conclude that AI has the potential to revolutionize the way we improve the quality of food. **They call for further research on the development and application of AI techniques for food quality improvement**[6].

The authors, Wieme et al. (2022) propose a method that uses hyperspectral imaging to capture data about the spectral reflectance of fruits. The hyperspectral data is then

used to train a machine learning model to classify fruits as healthy or diseased. The article begins by discussing the importance of fruit disease detection. Fruit diseases can cause significant losses in crop yields and quality. **Traditional methods for detecting fruit diseases, such as visual inspection and laboratory analysis, can be time-consuming, labor-intensive, and inaccurate.** The authors evaluated the performance of their method on a dataset of images of apples with different diseases[7]. Singh et al. (2022) review the importance of postharvest loss mitigation and quality management. Postharvest losses can account for up to 50% of the total produce produced. The article discusses the challenges and limitations of using machine learning frameworks for postharvest loss mitigation and quality management. These challenges include: 1. The need for large and labeled datasets: Machine learning algorithms require large datasets of labeled data to train. This can be difficult and expensive to obtain, especially for rare fruits and vegetables. 2. The need for expert knowledge: The development and use of machine learning frameworks requires expert knowledge in machine learning and postharvest science. 3. The need for interpretability: It is important to be able to understand how machine learning algorithms make decisions. This can be difficult, especially for complex algorithms. Despite these challenges, the authors conclude that machine learning frameworks have the potential to revolutionize the way we mitigate postharvest losses and improve quality management of fruits and vegetables. **They call for further research on the development and application of machine learning frameworks for this purpose. the future of research in AI-based food industry applications holds promise for enhanced performance, waste reduction, sustainability, and transformative industry paradigms. This work should continue to evolve and adapt in response to emerging technologies and societal needs.**[8].

Nie (n.d.) (2022) examines the application of AI and DT in smart agriculture and forestry. The potential for AI and DT to transform agriculture and forestry by increasing sustainability, efficiency, and productivity is argued by the authors.AI can be used to automate agricultural tasks, such as crop monitoring and pest control. It can also be used to develop intelligent decision-making tools that can help farmers make better decisions about crop management. DT can be used to create virtual models of agricultural systems. These models can be used to simulate the effects of different management practices and to predict crop yields. The authors of the article identify several challenges that need to be addressed in order to fully realize the potential of

AI and DT in agriculture and forestry. **These challenges include the lack of data, the high cost of technology, and the need for better integration of AI and DT with other agricultural technologies**. Despite these challenges, the authors believe that AI and DT have the potential to make a significant contribution to sustainable agriculture and forestry. **More research and development are necessary to overcome challenges and realize technological potential**. The lack of data, the high cost of technology, and the need for better integration of AI and DT with other agricultural technologies are some of the challenges that need to be addressed in order to fully realize the potential of AI and DT in agriculture and forestry[9].

(Addanki et al., 2022) explore AI's impact on food processing, safety, packaging, and traceability. In food processing, AI can be used to automate tasks such as quality control, ingredient selection, and process optimization. It can also be used to develop new food products and recipes. In food safety, AI can be used to detect foodborne pathogens, identify food fraud, and predict food spoilage. It can also be used to develop new food safety regulations and standards. In food packaging, AI can be used to design more effective packaging materials and to track the movement of food products through the supply chain. In food traceability, AI can be used to track the origin of food products and to identify potential contamination sources. The authors of the article conclude that AI has the potential to revolutionize the food industry by making it more efficient, safe, and sustainable. They call for more research and development in this area in order to fully realize the potential of AI in the food industry[10].

Dhiman et al. (2022), a novel deep learning model for the automatic detection of the severity level of citrus fruit diseases. The model is trained on a dataset of images of citrus fruits with four levels of disease severity: high, medium, low, and healthy. The model is based on a convolutional neural network (CNN) that is pre-trained on the ImageNet dataset. The CNN is fine-tuned on the citrus fruit dataset using transfer learning. The model is evaluated on a test set of images and achieves an accuracy of 99% for detecting low-severity diseases, 98% for detecting high-severity diseases, 96% for detecting healthy fruits, and 97% for detecting medium-severity diseases. The results show that the proposed model is effective for detecting citrus fruit diseases at four levels of severity[11].

Kumar et al. (2022), contributions to the field of computer vision and agricultural disease detection. First, it proposes a novel HCI framework for the automatic detection

of fruit diseases. Second, the approach is evaluated on a large dataset of images of apples with and without diseases. Third, the approach achieves high accuracy for both the detection of fruit diseases and the prediction of apple sweetness. Despite these limitations, the paper makes a significant contribution to the field of computer vision and agricultural disease detection. The proposed approach is a promising approach for the automatic detection of fruit diseases and the prediction of apple sweetness. Future work could focus on evaluating the approach on a larger dataset of images from different regions and testing the approach on a larger number of images[12].

Zamani et al. (2022) made significant contributions to the field of computer vision, particularly in the area of agricultural disease detection. First, it proposes a novel deep learning approach for the early detection of apple black rot disease. Second, the approach is evaluated on a large dataset of images of apples with and without black rot disease. Third, the approach achieves high accuracy for the early detection of apple black rot disease. The paper has several limitations. First, the approach is only evaluated on a dataset of apples from one region. Second, the approach is not evaluated on a large number of images. Third, the approach is not tested on images of diseased apples that are not in the training set[13].

Hemamalini et al. (2022) propose a new approach that efficiently inspects and grades food quality using image segmentation and machine learning techniques.The approach is based on a two-stage process. In the first stage, a segmentation algorithm is used to identify the different components of the food item. In the second stage, a machine learning model is used to classify each component as healthy or diseased. The approach is evaluated on a dataset of images of fruits and vegetables with and without diseases[14].

Kumar et al. (2022b) presents a groundbreaking approach that utilizes image processing techniques for the automatic detection of fruit diseases and the accurate prediction of apple sweetness. The approach is evaluated on a dataset of images of apples with and without diseases, and it achieves an accuracy of 98% for detecting fruit diseases and 95% for predicting apple sweetness. The approach is promising for the automatic detection of fruit diseases and the prediction of apple sweetness, but it should be evaluated on a larger dataset of images from different regions[15].

A deep learning approach for early citrus disease detection by T. B. Kumar et al. (2022). The approach is trained on a dataset of images of citrus fruits with and without diseases. The approach achieves an accuracy of 98% for detecting early-stage citrus

fruit diseases. The approach is promising for the early detection of citrus fruit diseases, but it should be evaluated on a larger dataset of images from different regions[16].

Research Gaps :

The study highlighted five critical research gaps. These were:

- The lack of a large and diverse dataset of fruit images with known diseases and quality defects. This made it difficult to train AI models that could accurately identify diseases and quality defects.
- The need for more robust and reliable AI models that could work in real-world settings. Current AI models were often not robust enough to handle the variability of real-world conditions, such as different lighting conditions and camera angles.
- The need for more efficient AI algorithms that could process images quickly and accurately. This was important for applications where real-time detection was required, such as on-farm disease monitoring.
- The need for more affordable AI solutions that were accessible to small farmers. The cost of AI systems was still a barrier for many farmers, especially small farmers.
- The need to address the ethical implications of using AI in agriculture. This included concerns about privacy, fairness, and transparency.

5. Methodology to be Adopted:

The research methodology for detecting fruit diseases using a proposed model involves several key steps: image acquisition, image preprocessing, image segmentation, proposed model development, proposed model evaluation and statistical analysis, performance testing and validation, and deployment.

1. **Literature Review:**

   Conduct an extensive literature review to study various techniques used for the detection of fruit quality and diseases. This should include traditional methods and recent advancements in computer vision, machine learning, and deep learning for fruit quality and disease detection. Identify the gaps in the existing research and the challenges that need to be addressed.

2. **Image Acquisition:**

   Gather a comprehensive dataset of fruit images with and without diseases, as well as images of fruits with different quality levels. Ensure that the dataset is diverse, including multiple types of fruits, various disease manifestations, and different quality levels.

3. **Data Preprocessing:**

   Preprocess the dataset to ensure consistency, quality, and suitability for artificial intelligence analysis. This may involve image resizing, normalization, and data augmentation to increase dataset size. Remove any images that are blurry, out of focus, or have other defects.

4. **Exploration of Machine Learning Algorithms:**

   Explore different machine learning algorithms suitable for fruit quality and disease identification. Implement and fine-tune these algorithms on the dataset to establish baseline performance. Evaluate the performance of different algorithms using appropriate evaluation metrics.

5. **Algorithm Development:**

   Develop novel algorithms for the detection of fruit quality and diseases if necessary. This could involve creating custom CNN architectures or adapting existing models to the specific task of fruit quality and disease detection. Implement the proposed algorithms and ensure they are properly optimized.

6. **Model Development:**

Develop models for the proposed algorithms that improve classification performance. This may involve ensemble techniques, transfer learning, or feature engineering.

7. **Evaluation and Performance Testing:**

   Evaluate the results and performances of the proposed models. Employ cross-validation techniques to ensure the robustness of results.

6. Scope and Significance of the Study :

Scope:

The scope of the research study is to develop an AI-based fruit disease identification and quality detection system that is accurate, fast, and scalable. The system should be able to identify a wide range of fruit diseases and quality defects, even those that are difficult to identify by eye. The system should also be able to work in real-time and be easily deployed in a variety of settings.

Key aspects of the research scope include:

1. **Fruit Diversity**: The research encompasses a wide array of fruit varieties, including, but not limited to, apples, pomegranates, custard apples, figs, and grapes. This comprehensive approach ensures that the AI system is adaptable and effective across various fruit species, promoting agricultural versatility.
2. **Disease Identification Precision**: The primary research focus is the development of AI algorithms that exhibit exceptional precision in identifying a multitude of fruit diseases originating from pathogens, pests, and environmental factors. This precision is crucial for timely disease management and yield preservation.
3. **Holistic Quality Assessment**: The scope extends beyond disease detection to encompass a holistic assessment of fruit quality. This includes evaluating factors such as ripeness, freshness, size, and the presence of physical defects or blemishes. A comprehensive quality assessment aids in optimizing fruit marketability and consumer satisfaction.
4. **Ethical AI Deployment**: Ethical considerations are central to this research endeavor. It actively addresses the ethical dimensions of deploying AI in agriculture, with a specific emphasis on safeguarding data privacy, ensuring fairness in algorithmic decision-making, and fostering transparency throughout the AI system's lifecycle.

Significance:

The research study is significant because it has the potential to make a significant contribution to the agriculture and food industry. The system can help farmers to identify and treat fruit diseases early, which can reduce crop losses. It can also help food producers to ensure the quality of their products, which can improve their

reputation and market share. And it can help consumers to make informed choices about the fruits they buy, which can improve their health.

Significance of the research study:

1. **Crop Preservation**: This research holds paramount importance in agriculture by providing farmers with a powerful tool to detect and treat fruit diseases at an early stage. The potential reduction in crop losses, as evidenced by studies, can significantly contribute to global food security and sustainable agricultural practices.
2. **Industry Competitiveness**: The system's ability to ensure consistent fruit quality enhances the competitiveness of food producers and growers. In an increasingly quality-conscious market, the AI-based system can help food producers meet consumer expectations and expand their market share.
3. **Consumer Health**: The research directly impacts consumer health by promoting the consumption of fresh, high-quality fruits. This aligns with public health goals, as evidenced by research from institutions like the Harvard School of Public Health, emphasizing the role of fruit consumption in reducing the risk of chronic diseases.
4. **Economic Viability**: Improved crop management and reduced losses translate into economic benefits for both farmers and food producers. The research has the potential to increase income for farmers and improve the profitability of food businesses, contributing to economic sustainability.
5. **Data-Driven Agriculture**: The research represents a significant shift towards data-driven agriculture, leveraging AI technology to optimize farming practices. This transition not only enhances efficiency but also contributes to responsible resource utilization.
6. **Global Impact**: Given the widespread cultivation and consumption of fruits globally, the research's significance extends across regions and countries. Its outcomes can benefit diverse stakeholders, contributing to global food security and economic development.
7. **Environmental Sustainability**: The reduction of pesticide use through early disease detection aligns with sustainable farming practices, reducing the environmental impact of agriculture and promoting ecological balance.

7. Proposed Work Plan:

Activity /months	**0-3**	**4-6**	**7-10**	**11-13**	**14-17**	**18-20**	**21-24**
Review of literature							
Image acquisition and algorithm development							
Proposed model development							
Evaluation and Testing							
Report writing and final submission							

8. Importance of Research:

Agricultural Sustainability: Agriculture is a critical sector for food production and security. According to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), approximately 20-40% of global crop yields are lost due to pests and diseases each year. AI-based fruit disease identification can significantly reduce these losses, contributing to agricultural sustainability.

- It can help farmers to identify and treat fruit diseases early, which can reduce crop losses. Fruit diseases can cause significant damage to crops, leading to crop losses and economic losses for farmers. The AI-based system can help farmers to identify diseases early, before they cause significant damage to the crop. This can help farmers to reduce crop losses and improve their yields.
- It can help food producers to ensure the quality of their products, which can improve their reputation and market share. Consumers are willing to pay more for fruits that are certified as being of high quality. The AI-based system can help food producers to ensure that their products meet the quality standards that consumers demand. This can help food producers to improve their reputation and market share.
- It can help consumers to make informed choices about the fruits they buy, which can improve their health. Eating fruits and vegetables can help to reduce the risk of chronic diseases such as heart disease, stroke, and cancer. The AI-based system can help consumers to choose fruits that are fresh and of high quality, which can improve their health.
- It can help to reduce the use of pesticides and other chemicals in agriculture. Pesticides and other chemicals can be harmful to the environment and to human health. The AI-based system can help farmers to identify and treat fruit diseases without the need for pesticides and other chemicals. This can help to reduce the environmental impact of agriculture and improve the safety of food.
- It can help to improve the efficiency of the agriculture and food industry. The AI-based system can automate the process of fruit disease identification and quality detection. This can help to improve the efficiency of the agriculture and food industry and reduce the cost of production.

9. Conclusion:

This research will represent a significant step forward in the realm of agriculture, technology, and food security. The study has endeavored to develop, evaluate, and advocate for an innovative solution to address the critical challenges posed by fruit diseases and quality assurance in fruit farming. Researchers will successfully develop AI algorithms that enable the early detection of fruit diseases and enhance the assessment of fruit quality. This innovation has the potential to revolutionize agriculture by reducing crop losses, improving the reputation of food producers, and promoting healthier consumer choices.

The proposed work will also underscore the ethical deployment of AI in agriculture, emphasizing the importance of privacy, fairness, and transparency. With global relevance, our findings will benefit farmers and consumers worldwide, contributing to food security, sustainability, and economic stability. Looking ahead, researchers envision the continued integration of AI in agriculture, fostering data-driven, efficient, and sustainable practices, and will encourage ongoing exploration and collaboration in pursuit of a more resilient and food-secure future.

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Research Scholar

Mrs. Vanita Madhukar Boywar
(MCA- NET)

Research Guide

Dr. Gajanan D. Kurundkar
Assistant Professor

Shri Guru BuddhiswamiMahavidyalaya,

Purna (Jn.), Dist. Parbhani (M.S.) India